He assured the Council that links with the South Africa leaders were as close today as ever they had been. They were giving a fine lead in an appallingly difficult situation and genuine progress had been made in the past twelve months. It was agreed to send a message of encouragement from the Central Council to Toc H in South Africa.

The Bordon Company

Attention was drawn to the need for raising spiritual standards by T. A. R. GULLIVER (*Northern*) who said that the Bordon Company was not a separate movement, but just a group of active members who thought God's leadership of Toc H to be of the utmost importance. They stood for the prayerful consideration of problems facing the Movement, because those problems are all concerned with people. It was not difficult to join the Bordon Company, although he had found their simple rule of praying, reading the Scriptures and thinking about Toc H daily not so easy to apply. In doing so he had been helped by the knowledge that a number of them were doing so, and felt sure that it would help other men too. Details could be had by writing to "The Bordon Company, c/o Toc H Headquarters".

Closing Stages

The hoary old myth that "we never say thanks in Toc H" received a further shattering blow during the Council Meeting's last moments, when a positive spate of thanks was showered on the many people who had contributed to the week-end's success. The session ended with the final act of homegoing prayers, led by PAT LEONARD.

WHO GOES HOME? Councillors leaving the Conference Hall at Swanwick

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THIRTY-EIGHTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

TOC H JOURNAL

JULY 1960

Letters and articles are welcomed and are printed as individual points of view only

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COVER PICTURE: At the informal ceremony held to mark the opening of Dor Knap as a training centre *(l. to r.)* Ronald Symons, Alec Churcher, John Callf, Jack Gozzard, Mrs. Kate Young, Richard Ayshford-Sandford, Charles Young and Stanley Berwick. *(See also page 278.)*

Photograph by courtesy of "Evesham Journal"

EDITORIAL OFFICE · TOC H, 47 FRANCIS ST
LONDON SW1 · TELEPHONE VICTORIA 0354

IN & OUT notes & comment

Helping the Move

ON THE EVE OF HEADQUARTERS MOVING TO Tower Hill, we wish to acknowledge with gratitude the contributions received from Branches and individual members to the H.Q. Loan and Gift Scheme, which has now reached the £12,000 mark. This amount includes two loans by members of £1,000 each, together with an outright gift of £500 from another member. Loans varying from £100 to £500 have been made by twelve Branches, while over £700 has been made available by a South Coast District. Already these gifts and loans are saving the Family £500 per annum net in interest payments. Meanwhile the scheme will remain open and all who contribute either direct gifts, or loans carrying from nil to four per cent. interest, can do so knowing that they will be giving substantial help towards keeping central costs down and assuring success for the Family's new rallying-point on Tower Hill.

'Refugees' in York

A DAILY LOG KEPT BY YORKSHIRE AREA PADRE, Len Rivett, during a week in May when he lived in a 'refugee camp' on a waste site in the centre of York makes illuminating reading. In addition to Len, the party consisted of four other men and four girls (ages 16–25) with two small huts behind a barbed-wire fence their home. Pledged to subsist entirely on a bare shilling per head, per day, allowance it was an exciting moment when foragers returned in triumph from the local market with tomatoes, fruit and vegetables they had found discarded. This produced a 'crisis' in the small community and, after a thoroughgoing group discussion, it was agreed that the whole lot should be returned. Three of the party took the stuff back and did a good turn by handing it over to two old ladies they found rummaging among the litter there. The log comments: "The unity of the fellowship was founded initially upon bad tomatoes".

Among other stories of special efforts during World Refugee Year there is Clacton-on-Sea Branch's tale of the shop they borrowed and stocked with gifts of furniture and books. Apart from raising £180 for the fund, they were able to help a number of local 'refugees' and, in two cases of absolute distress, complete houses were furnished without charge to their unfortunate occupants.

Plying with Plywood

UNDER THE TITLE *Do it Yourself with Plywood*, the Timber Development Association have produced a 16mm film in colour illustrating various home jobs that can be done in plywood. The film's treatment is light and entertaining; shelving, kitchen and bedroom fittings and wall panelling are some of the items covered. It runs for twenty minutes and Toc H Branches can have it on loan by applying direct to: Timber Development Association Limited, 21 College Hill, London, E.C.4. (N.B.—In order that would-be borrowers may not be disappointed, at least two weeks' advance notice is necessary.)

'Parents' Wanted

WE HAVE HEARD FROM MR. PAUL FIELD, THE Founder and Hon. Secretary of The Children's Family Trust, that a country residence, Mill House, near Lincoln, has been recently purchased for a third family of lonely and deprived children. They are now looking for a dedicated couple who are prepared to devote their lives to the new 'family' and to love and care for them as if they were their own. Until the seven children now ready to move in are joined by another five, the husband could continue in his present occupation. The wife would receive £225 per annum and domestic help. For both, free accommodation, food, heating and light. Incidentally, under the title *A Family Named Field*, a biography of Paul Field, written by George Bruce and telling the story of the great-hearted venture of the Children's Family Trust, has recently been published.

A married couple are also wanted as joint-Wardens of Bridgehead, the Boys' Home at 113 Gough Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham 15. Salary £850 a year, less living costs. One or two children of the same sex could be accommodated. Applications to F. G. Harrison, 78 Broughton Road, Birmingham 21.

Discussing Disarmament

FOR THOUGHTFUL PEOPLE THERE IS NO escape from today's paramount problem of defence and disarmament. Some Branches have secured informed speakers on this subject and others might like to include one or more discussions when planning their autumn programmes. To help them do so successfully, the United Nations Association is publishing a guide *Discussing Defence and Disarmament*, and is also willing to assist with advice, speakers or additional study material. One-day schools, designed particularly to help group leaders, are also being organised during the next few months. Further information, help and copies of the discussion guide can be obtained direct from: Mrs. Margaret Beer, United Nations Association, 25 Charles Street, London, W.1.

LEONARD FOSTER BROWNE, M.B., M.D., F.B.Ps.S. F.R.S.M.
1887–1960

'Browno'

P. B. CLAYTON

In Chapter X of "Tales of Talbot House" Leonard Browne wrote "The spirit of laughter and prayer filled the House, and the innkeeper showed to his guests the qualities of the Friend and Lord of the House." Here, Tubby, the innkeeper, tells of "a friendship which was a partnership in work and prayer"

WHEN CAPTAIN L. F. BROWNE, R.A.M.C., came on the scene in Flanders in 1916, I ran across him as by accident. I found he was attached to Railway Troops, that he lived with Colonel Cusack Walton* in the stationary (yet mobile) train by the brick factory on the Abeele road, on the serener side of Poperinge.

When he repaid my call, time and again, and shewed discerning interest in the work, spirit, and atmosphere of Talbot House, Pettifer did his best to seal this friendship by having aches and pains when Browne arrived; and by describing symptoms of my own, of which I had been wholly unaware. In Pettifer's philosophy, deception of a mild kind on unimportant subjects was in accordance with the Buffs' tradition. Since Leonard Browne, on the other hand, saw through deceits like no one else I know, Pettifer's aches and pains became his hobby, and these led him to still more frequent visits. In days which had few happy features left, none was more happy than the glowing health exhibited by active service troops. Since in the distant days of which I speak no man became a soldier by compulsion, the voluntary brotherhood of men knit in a common aim thus proudly shared, was still the spirit of the Salient scene. Men who risked their lives for one another, freely and gladly, knew no lesser code. Wounded and sick were hurried from the scene. Life in the open air, coarse wholesome food, made men ashamed to be mere invalids.

Thus Browne and I advanced into a friendship which was a partnership in work and prayer. At Portsea for four years I had discovered that any parson, who is worth his salt and seeks firm friendship with common man, *must* have a doctor as his working mate. Thus I believe that Browne was sent to me not merely to encourage my pursuits when

*Col. Cusack Walton, D.S.O., Hon. General Secretary Toc H, 1932–33

he was free, but to sense and to share the problems I was up against alone. He had already in his well-trained mind a wealth of knowledge I do not possess. While he would share this with me when so required, it was far shorter to hand on to him the man whose needs I could not probe. Thus when his round of duties had been done, he was increasingly in Talbot House and a familiar figure in the Chapel, a fact which struck the men he came to help. The living faith of any Christian doctor shyly, but clearly, proved by his own conduct, has a profound effect upon men's minds. This is a truth all doctors ought to know; and if their intellects and consciences permit conviction, I would plead with them that they should take their own clear stand for Christ. This Leonard Browne instinctively fulfilled, without the slightest prompting on my part; and men whom I failed to satisfy delighted me by making friends with him.

Wider ministry

This partnership went on throughout '16; but then Browne's health shewed signs of a decline. Though more years have passed since those far days, I can remember into what grim distress I flung myself, foreseeing his retirement, since he had by that time become more essential to my daily task. But God saw other ways of using him, and destined him to have a long career in which he would be able to pursue, day after day, without the least remission, an even wider ministry in future to those whose minds were troubled by strange fears, by complications of their early youth, by all the chance and change which men endure, and sometimes by a sad inheritance.

Little did we imagine when he left old Talbot House in war time through ill-health, a state which simply breaks a doctor's heart, that we should meet again when war was won and work together from that moment onwards, first in Knutsford Test School as established in April 1919, in Knutsford Prison, then in the creation of Talbot House in London, when any single failure on our part was likely to bring chaos to the Movement.

His married life was spent near to Mark VII, of which he was for more than twenty years the active and amusing President, prepared to make mountains into molehills for those who took their troubles straight to him.

[*To be continued.*]

Common Ground

COLIN CUTTELL

Canon Colin Cuttell is the Head of S.L.I.M., the South London Industrial Mission, and, in the late 1920's, was for a time on the London Office Staff of Toc H. Here is the substance of his address to the Central Council on the common ground that Toc H has with the Churches of all denominations in trying to get through to men caught up in the complexity of the industrial machine

¶

I THINK it a good thing that in Toc H we should be self critical; from my reading of the JOURNAL I would say that we are a bit *too* critical of ourselves at times. Let us not forget that there are many ordinary chaps like myself who wouldn't be Christians, let alone in Toc H, had it not been for Poperinge and the events which stirred upon Tower Hill in the early 1920's. I want to express my personal indebtedness to Tubby for all he has meant to generations of youngsters, of which I am just one.

Canon Colin Cuttell

Do you remember Tubby's *Fishers of Men*? [A "Bang-went series" booklet, I believe.] If the Church of England as a whole—and I speak now as a Church of England parson—had taken seriously what Tubby said there, we should have gone a long way to bridging the gulf about which we talk *ad nauseam*.

Toc H has taught me at least three things. It has taught me that Christianity is not a text-book system of ethics. It is the religion of the Incarnation, reminding us again and again that Christ was born in a stable under a pub. There is no department of human experience it does not touch, however earthy. Christianity is concerned with what a man does

with both his work and his leisure, with his attitudes towards and relation with his neighbour, whether in office or school or factory or dock. That there is a lay ministry to be exercised in this mundane situation rather than in the ideal situations conjured up in our pipe-dreams.

Stuff of friendship

Toc H has taught me that people matter most. The stuff of the Christian religion is the stuff of friendship. This is surely the inner meaning of Poperinge. It taught men that true religion begins where men are made friends together in Christ's name. Our Lord called His disciples friends, the greatest compliment ever paid to mankind. He calls us friends. We have been brought together as friends. Apart from friendship there is no Church nor can there be. You may obliterate all your fine church buildings overnight and out of the stuff of friendship the Church comes alive again. When you face this basic fact of friendship, buildings, organisations, denominational labels don't matter. The life of Toc H depends upon groups of friends held together by the precious cement of this experience of Christ. Now of course we don't want to sentimentalise about it, or even to talk about it overmuch, but that is the truth of it.

Toc H has also demonstrated to the Churches the top priority of the priesthood of the laity. We must expose the lie that having given the main responsibility of priesthood into the hands of a professional *élite*, there is no other kind of priesthood worth the name. This, I think, was uppermost in Tubby's mind when he sat down to write *Fishers of Men*, which should be the handbook of every industrial mission.

How do we commend and share our Christian faith with people in this massified, conditioned society? This is a question to be faced not only by Toc H but by the whole Church in an age of revolution. Christians have tended either to take refuge in pietism or to over-simplify the problems of our complex modern world. Religious experience is a knife-edge. History is littered with aberrations of the Christian faith. Again and again men have escaped into one of the various forms of pietism or quietism, finding refuge from the tensions and stresses of life in some holiness movement.

You will know from the history of the industrial revolution that we are still suffering from a long period of pietism

when the Church considered that how men earned their daily bread was not primarily its business. The "dark satanic mills" of which we sing with such vigour, were a direct consequence of withdrawal and we have not yet recovered from the Church's failure to accept responsibility. At every Trade Union Congress, someone will stand up to remind the assembly that it was a parson who played a leading part in sending the Tolpuddle martyrs to the convict hulks. This is what happens when the Church 'minds its own business'. It was the problem of Germany was it not? Pietism made Hitler possible.

And when we are not taking refuge in pietism, we are over-simplifying both the Faith and the problems with which the Faith is confronted. J. H. Oldham says somewhere in his *Life is Commitment* that nothing can be more irritating to the harassed executive of a large concern, wrestling with many intractable problems, than to be told by some well-meaning person that "Christ is the answer" and that all his problems and vexations will disappear if . . . well, you know the sort of formula. On the other hand, there are those who would apply "Christian principles" like a patch. But you can't tack a Christian patch on the threadbare garment of modern secularised society. It remains what it is, a patch. It never belongs.

Choices and decisions

The same people who go on talking about Christian principles in industry ignore the complexities of the situation and seem to overlook the great problem of evil with which St. Paul wrestles all the time. Thus, the individual finds himself having to make choices and decisions, not between black and white but between shades of black, white, and grey. We shall do the cause of the Kingdom and the cause of Toc H great harm if we fall into the snare of over-simplification. We have to face the harsh fact of a society very largely organised apart from the affirmations and postulates of the Christian faith and for that state of affairs the Church will share in judgment. Secularism has won a resounding victory in our time.

South London offers a vivid parable. Along the arid stretches of the riverside, you note those great brick churches, built in the mid-nineteenth century to house thousands of worshippers. There they are, left behind like islands of

piety by the advancing tide of secularism. With a few exceptions they are empty. On the Lord's Day, you will find in any one of them a score of people, sitting one here and one there, as if to accentuate the fact that the Lord's House is deserted and that there is no longer a society of friends. The only alternative is to accept full responsibility for the outside world as it is, to identify ourselves with it even at the risk of getting soiled. The pietist says "come ye apart" in quite the wrong way. In fact there is only one way left, complete involvement in the collective sin of the human race. Maritain calls this involvement "the sanctification of the profane" and this is the business of Toc H. What does that mean? It means obedience to God in the most unpromising situations and "blow the consequences".

Cost of Involvement

This much we have learned from the priest-workmen of France. They went so far in this business of identification that they got very soiled. Rome was alarmed when she heard of priest-workers standing alongside communists on the same platform, finding themselves identified in the common plea for social justice in the factories of France. And why not? It is better to be alive with communism than dead with the Church. The official dissolution of the movement was a bitter blow because it struck at the Incarnation. In *Only One Way Left*, George McLeod reminds us that genuine involvement puts paid to the Sunday school picture-book idea of a lovely "green hill far away", a neat cross on a pretty, undulating mown lawn, and a picturesque figure like that of the crucifixion of Salvadore's St. John of the Cross, so wholesome and so comely in its setting of lovely greensward. George tells us the truth about it: the body of the Saviour no longer recognisably human but covered with clotted blood and hidden under a million flies, a body rotting in the sun, set up on a gallows on the rubbish heap of a city that didn't care. But that rubbish heap was at the crossroads of the world. It is a reminder of the reality, of the cost of involvement for Toc H membership.

When Cuthbert Bardsley went to Woolwich as Rector in 1941, you might have said that, humanly speaking, there could have been no more hopeless situation. It was a church such as I have described. To make matters worse, bombing had removed both the windows and the remnants of the con-

gregation. But the only kind of Christian religion Cuthbert understood was the religion of involvement and identification. Siemen's people will long remember his first invasion of the factory's deep shelters when the motley assembly would turn quite happily from their chatter and jokes over mugs of tea to prayer. The quiet room where an altar was set up is still there and it means to the membership of the South London Industrial Mission something of what the chapel of the Old House in Poperinge means to members of Toc H. It was there that the religion of Jesus Christ came alive in a new way, in the most adverse and unlikely circumstances. Then in the autumn of 1944, Cuthbert came to Southwark Cathedral.

Unlikely setting

Again, there was a remnant of a congregation and no windows worth mentioning. The market and the docks and warehouses stood in grim proximity. An unlikely setting for a cathedral, but Cuthbert intended that it should mean something to the thousands who worked in the vicinity and thought of it, when they thought of it at all, as a nice historical monument, beautiful but irrelevant. It was about this time that I met Cuthbert during an air-raid. I was on leave from Canada and due back there. I hated factories. When Cuthbert asked me to work with him and undertake the industrial outreach, I accepted—for three years! The three years became fifteen. That's the way things work in the Kingdom of God. I could sympathise with Jonah who was looking for an escape hatch and hated the very thought of Nineveh.

Thus began a peripatetic ministry. For fifteen years I have been in and around the docks and factories, doing what Ted Wickham of Sheffield has described so aptly as "wasting time creatively", a quality known to Toc H. Out of such beginnings has grown a team of padres and laymen who are convinced that this kind of involvement is the only answer to the situation confronting us today. Looking back, I see a pattern. There was the period of breaking down suspicion and hostility, simply finding one's way about. Then the building up of friendships out of which the lay cadres have grown. Having marked down our allies, we have drawn them into study groups, weekend schools and conferences and shared our ministry with them. It's the stuff of friend-

ship again. You don't learn it theologically, though your theological insights are important. We are learning to rely more and more upon these lay militants. They belong as we padres can never belong, to the industrial milieu. They are the agents of integrity.

New insights

What have we learnt from this initial 'recce'? We have learnt that there are no short cuts. Before William Blake's vision can be realised, there will be many, many crucifixions, both corporate and individual. Some years ago I put out a little guide for padres who were venturing into industry. I quote one passage: "We are still going out into the blue. There are few visible marks of success. Pews do not noticeably fill as a result of our ministry. We work in a resistant medium and it will be a long job. It taxes all our mental, spiritual, and physical powers. Our business is to bring men, one by one, through friendship to the first stirrings of a recognition of their need of God. Bit by bit to bring them to know Christ, patiently to help them grow in intelligent understanding of the Faith and to an equally intelligent grasp of Christian doctrine and its relation to the kind of real life situations in which men at work daily find themselves. No doubt the 'big top', and the 'big drum', and the 'big name' in neon lights, have their place in evangelism. Personally, I am convinced that we have been obsessed overlong with this kind of big-time mass attack, to which, incidentally, the real outsider is impervious. Instead, we have tried to follow the apostolic way of the small, hand-picked militant group led by the padre (this sounds so much like Toc H) who is nothing if not a fisher of men. The small group meets weekly, works out its faith dialectically and learns the business of discipleship with the open Bible as its text-book. In the process we have gained new insights into the work of the Holy Spirit, which we have sometimes fondly imagined to be neatly canalised and contained. Some of my best lessons in applied Christianity have been learned from some of the most unlikely people in the most unlikely places, from chaps who would not claim the name of Christian."

What of the prospects? We are soberly hopeful, remembering always that we are touching just a fringe of a vast area of apathy and unbelief. On the other hand, we are

now in regular contact with scores of industrial concerns where twenty years ago the idea of a parson being interested in a man's working conditions and actually visiting factories would have been unthinkable. We have created a team of padres which includes some fine Methodists. On the side of the lay apostolate, some of our keenest workers are Roman Catholics. (I do not accept the view that there is no hope of rapprochement with the Roman Church.) One of our first 'key men' was a Methodist lay preacher. At our first encounter in a docker's canteen, after the others had left we two went down on our knees to ask God's blessing on our joint enterprise in dockland.

Can we of S.L.I.M. gear in with Toc H? I believe we can and must. Toc H faces an entirely new situation to which it must address itself, with all the experience it has gained over the years. On the other hand, it was the ideals and achievements of Toc H and its techniques of fishing which gave Cuthbert Bardsley, myself, and others, the courage to launch out into the industrial deep. This deep sea fishing is God's business and we must not fail Him.

The Elder Brethren

ALDERTON.—On May 22, LESLIE F. ALDERTON, aged 57, a member of Paignton Branch. Elected 26.5.'50.

ANDREWS.—In May, WILLIAM ANDREWS, aged 78, a founder member of Sheringham Branch. Elected 1.11.'23.

BAILEY.—Suddenly on June 2, GEORGE THOMAS LEON BAILEY, aged 43, a member of Beccles Branch. Elected 1.5.'54.

BROWNE.—On May 15, LEONARD FOSTER BROWNE, M.D., aged 72, Treasurer, Talbot House, Poperinge, 1916–17, later a member of the Central Executive, chairman of Toc H Mark VII Branch, a Vice-President and a trustee of Toc H since 1947. Elected 1.7.'20.

BURROUGHS.—On May 3, REGINALD BURROUGHS, aged 74, a founder member of Portsmouth Branch. Elected 1.1.'22.

COOK.—On May 18, AUSTIN BERNARD COOK, aged 78, a member of West Hull Branch and secretary of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers. Elected 3.4.'57.

GAIRDNER.—Suddenly, on May 3, JOHN OSWALD GAIRDNER, aged 50, a member of Mark VII Branch. Elected 20.11.'57.

HOLMAN.—On May 21, FRANK REGINALD HOLMAN, aged 56, a member of Bovey Tracey Branch. Elected 3.10.'50.

LAMBERT.—On April 29, WILLIAM ALAN LAMBERT, M.B.E., aged 67, a member of Preston Branch and one of the original five Toc H members who went overseas in 1935 to work amongst Lepers. Elected 19.1.'34.

LE RUEZ.—On May 5, EDWARD J. LE RUEZ, a member of St. Helier (Jersey) Branch. Elected 15.7.'25.

SMITH.—On May 21, GEORGE SMITH, aged 71, the chairman of Linton Hospital Joint Branch. Elected 20.5.'52.

WAYLAND.—On May 12, HERBERT FRANK WAYLAND, aged 72, a member of Dundee Branch, and formerly Jobmaster of Quetta Branch, India. Elected 1938.

Three Friends

OLD FRIENDS die faster than I well can write. Thus I must beg the JOURNAL to permit mere glimpses throughout the summer to appear, rather than the fuller record of their deeds. I am myself too heavily engaged even to contemplate pen portraits now. It is hoped to pay an autumn tribute to these vanished friends. Meanwhile, it is enough for me to know that, though they have left me lonelier in old age, they have not left me doubtful or disturbed.

Since Christ on earth withdrew to pray for men, and ever liveth now to intercede, I take it that our earthly friends, withdrawn and hidden on the other side of Death, follow Him in the gift of intercession. Doubtless, they value prayers we make for them, though necessarily vague and unenlightened. Their prayers for us men and for our salvation are surely potent, since they see His face. P.B.C.

In Memoriam

On April 2, The Rt. Hon. the LORD AMMON OF CAMBERWELL, P.C., D.L., J.P.
A General Member, attached to House of Commons' Wing Toc H.

On April 2, EVELYN EMILY MARY, DOWAGER DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE, G.C.V.O.
President of Toc H Women's Association.

On April 3, LOLA SHENNAN (Mrs. David Shennan).
The anonymous donor of our Barnet Sports Ground, and of four Marks.

GOODBYE FORTY-SEVEN!

BARCLAY BARON

With the move of Headquarters to Tower Hill now imminent, Barkis has here set down his earliest impressions of 'the oddest-looking house in Francis Street' and outlines what it has meant to the world-wide Toc H family

GOODBYE, Forty-Seven! A queer bit of architecture? The registered office of Toc H Inc.? A 'hive of industry'? The house of a Toc H 'family'? Well, anyway, our Headquarters—not the first nor the last but up to date by far the longest. And now the time is ripe, some say overdue, to bid it farewell and go.

Take a glance at what went before Forty-Seven. When Talbot House first shifted from Flanders to London it was quite plain that wherever Tubby was, there was the central fire of a bold new movement; where he paused for intervals in a life of restless motion, there was the Headquarters of Toc H. Two rooms, linked by the length of Kingsway, served this purpose as a start—his sister's tiny flat in Red Lion Square where he slept (if at all) and a cramped corner in the offices of *The Challenge* newspaper in Arundel Street, Strand, where he did most varied business. A visit to the first by Sergeant Billy Musters led to his taking command of the second and transforming near-chaos into a workable machine. But that is another story which has been told in detail elsewhere.

Small beginnings

'Mus', now styled the Registrar, was the beginning of a staff and that needs more than one chair and table. So goodbye to the hospitality of one little room off Fleet Street, and now into four rooms, ground floor and basement, in Mark II in Pimlico. As the staff grew (never quite keeping pace with the growth of Toc H) and as more and more would-be hostellers competed for bed-space in the Mark, the pressure from within and without reached breaking point. For six years of extraordinary progress H.Q. had grown out of its clothes and must take a size larger.

So early in 1926, after much searching of heart and of London by the Central Executive, Headquarters moved into

No. 1, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster. It was a dignified address, perhaps a cut above us at the time, and the premises were rather expensive. Within three years the business of Toc H, now world-wide, was again outgrowing its head office; besides, a good offer for the unexpired remainder of our lease was dangled before us by a commercial firm.

In 1929, therefore, H.Q. took over the dilapidated house in York Road, across the River, which had been the first house of Mark III. We thus exchanged quarters in one of the most distinguished streets in London for a condemned building which was about to make way for extensions to County Hall. For the next six months we 'camped out' there in discomfort which may have made us more humble but less efficient.

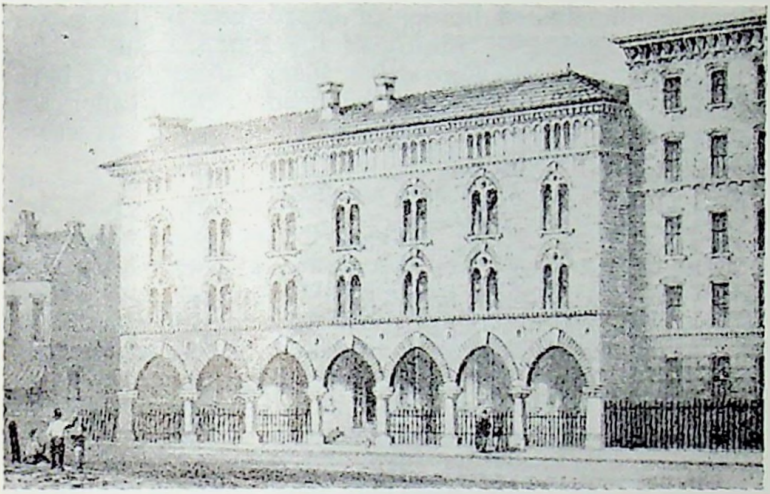
Forty-Seven found

Something had to be done about it and the search for a new house began immediately. It was found at 47, Francis Street, mid-way between Victoria Station and the Army and Navy Stores, and before the summer of 1930 was out Toc H was in. The building had to be purchased outright: at the fifth move Toc H became the owner of its own Headquarters.

And what an odd building it is! Designed, one may guess, a hundred and more years ago, its front elevation, with narrow windows and arches upon fat columns, is an unmistakable but distorted echo of Ruskin's passion for 'Venetian Gothic', then, unhappily, fashionable in England. Step round the corner into Willow Place (how many even of the staff who work at H.Q. know what their side street is called?) and you will find that the building is only one room thick—it is like a brick on end seen edgeways. It commands so superlative a view of the Roman Catholic Cathedral of Westminster that more than once strange photographers, professional or amateur, have asked leave to take pictures of the church from the window of the JOURNAL editor's room. Its neighbours on both sides are tall blocks, much younger than Forty-Seven itself, which house the married quarters of the Brigade of Guards. And indeed Forty-Seven, from the time it was built until our occupation, served the purpose of the Guards as their 'Industrial House for Girls'.

I have never forgotten my first impression of our prospective new home. One morning in 1929 I set out with

'Mus' and Rex Calkin, with "an order to view". We found the oddest-looking house in the street—though, English fashion, there was no visible clue to its number—and rang the bell. The door was opened by a girl of about fifteen who stood smartly at attention to let us pass. She was dressed in a knee-length frock of blue and white check, black stockings (football length) and low-heeled shoes. She ushered us into a room on the ground floor (long since our overseas office, Geoff Martin's room), which was the Matron's sanctum. The Warden greeted us gravely but graciously. She



An artist's impression of Forty-Seven, reproduced from a Victorian lithograph print

moved, I felt, in the great tradition of a Sergeant-Major in the Guards, which implies an exterior which can become terrifying at an instant's notice but serves also for camouflage to a warm heart, a very understanding mind and an unlimited devotion to the Brigade of Guards.

The Matron showed us round, beginning at the bottom floor. As we went up the stairs, with their concrete treads and stark iron rails, the girls we met, dustpan in hand or kneeling to scrub a landing, sprang to attention. Everyone of them wore the blue and white check uniform and no doubt knew what was expected of a guardsman's daughter. The motto of the house might well have been 'Jump to it!': whether they "leapt with joy" was less easy to determine.

We saw the long dormitories (which we were soon to partition into small rooms), as clean and bare as any hospital ward, and ready at no notice at all for a kit inspection. In the dining room on the ground floor (for many years to be our general office) I looked at the scrubbed tables and then at the pictures. The minimum was certainly "all present and correct"—a large framed portrait of the King and its companion of the Queen and a still larger frame which contained a casualty list of the officers and men of Her Majesty's Regiments of Foot Guards who fell in the Crimean War (it must have been about the time this house was opened), within an illuminated border of guardsmen in the picturesque and unpractical uniform of the time. It all seemed to a casual visitor like myself a bleak, if sanitary, background for a girl in her teens. I longed to cut a caper, sing a song or leave a flower behind—but I dare say I was wrong.

Particular moments

So Toc H, entering in, trod on the outgoing heels of a great tradition of pride and discipline. The new home with its concrete and iron staircase and its unplastered, uneven brick walls could not be dubbed luxurious, even by the faithful remnant of members who—as in every society—delight in picking holes in their own Headquarters. If the premises were 'institutional', they have never been dull during these last thirty years, thanks to the succession of men and women who have filled them with their faith and fellowship and human fallibility. There have come to be special corners and particular moments in Forty-Seven which bring back, for instance, a vivid touch from the Elder Brethren who worked alongside us here—a word, a smile, a gesture or a tone of voice remembered from Peter Monie, 'Mus' or 'Uncle' Harry Ellison, from Ronnie Grant, Gilbert Williams, Charlie Dearden, Howard Dunnett or Paul Slessor. Take as an example the north-east corner of the Administrator's table at 10 a.m. There were days on which you opened his door, glanced at this corner and went away quietly, shutting the door behind you. For this was one of the days when Peter was tortured by migraine, a legacy of his long service in India. His thoughtful practice was to give the signal of his own bearish feelings by putting out a little carved wooden bear (such as the tourist brings home from Berne) on the corner of his desk nearest the door. The word would then

go round "the bear is out" and the staff would leave the Administrator alone to his torment for the next few hours. Peter loved to tell against himself the story of the member on a visit from the provinces who unwittingly defied the bear. Peter: "You really mustn't break in like this. If you want to see me make a proper appointment. Please go away". Visitor withdraws in haste and bewilderment but recovers enough to open the door again and poke his face round it. Peter: "Oh, what *is* it? I told you . . . ." Visitor: "Only one question, please. Is this the 'House that Love built'?" Even the bear, they say, broke into a wooden smile.

Forty-Seven as it is today

Avoiding sentimentality, the answer to the visitor's question should be "yes". Forty-Seven is not just a bureau, stocked with dusty files and dusty answers, but the workshop of a united team. Without any discussion or 'self-consciousness' about 'Fellowship' and 'Service' H.Q. is quite a fair sample, let us hope, of Toc H—the Family on the Job. And the job is fascinating in its variety and its complicated simplicity. Its basic concern is with *people*, its only limits are people's needs and the geography of the world. You get an idea of its scope if you make a personally conducted tour of the building, as the Matron once did with us, from the bottom to the top, from the shed in the yard where 'Warmy' makes the beds for Dor Knap, up eight flights of concrete steps to the third floor where Jack Harrison and his team conjure with hard figures. The Administrator, Administrative Padre and General Secretary, the Bursar, the Editor, the Secretaries for Overseas, for Marks, Training, Schools, Services, the girls who type and duplicate—all have to find space in a building meant to be one-room thick. Hardboard partitions,

narrow passages and a cheerful give-and-take solve the jig-saw. The largest room, the typists' office, has to serve for central committees on many evenings of the month and sometimes as a platform for a guest-speaker at a lunch-hour meeting. And the ground-floor reception room is invaded every morning for coffee not only by a score of staff members but entertains visitors on most days. The visitors' book makes you think, for these guests come from all the five continents and the seven seas; dark skins are common enough among them and very welcome. Come to coffee, shake hands all round and listen-in—you may well catch a hint or two of how deep and wide Toc H goes in men's everyday lives.

Forty-Seven, then, is a busy place and, because those who work there believe in their jobs, a happy one. That is to say these is no more friction and no less plain speaking than you would expect in any lively and united family. There is humour and kindness and, when it is called for, courage. All in all it is a heartening place to work in.

Strange contradiction

That brings to my mind one strange contradiction, the only time when the normal life of Forty-Seven suddenly ceased and it entered an uncanny twilight; it went all limp but it was not dead. The 'phoney' war of 1939 was heralded by the almost 'phonier' peace of 1938, when "the flower of safety" was plucked for us at Munich. When it dawned on us all that we had not heard the last of Hitler, private individuals, Government departments and commercial firms began to make their plans, to choose their bolt-holes, for the 'total war' they saw coming. Before long Forty-Seven was invaded by this idea and, after much discussion among staff and Central Executive, it was decided to move irreplaceable records, the register of membership and some office furniture (altogether a heavy van load of stuff) to the Mark at Swindon. There a skeleton Headquarters' staff underwent "the winter of our discontent", a spell so cold that the pine needles in the garden of Mark XVI were cased in ice.

After that dramatic false alarm which woke the air-raid sirens in the first hour of the war nothing happened for a long time. Forty-Seven, like the rest of London, had not after all been wiped out, as many people had been led to expect. The General Secretary still called daily to deal with letters and sundry business. I used to come up from Swindon for

a few hours when there was any valid excuse and find occupation at my familiar table. For this crazy old building *was* Toc H Headquarters as make-shift Swindon could never be: it almost seemed to reproach us for our desertion.

Ironically enough, as it turned out, Headquarters moved back to London in good time for the bombing. Already in January, 1940, some staff was there in normal office hours and members of Toc H, now mostly in uniform, were invited by the JOURNAL to drop in and expect a warm welcome.

The day after his return home from a German prison camp. Rex Calkin telling his story to Lake-Lake, Alec Churcher and Barkis

When the 'Doodlebugs' began in earnest a simple routine was carried out. As the 'Alert' sounded (and some days that might be a dozen times) Charlie Dearden, the Caretaker, took care. He looked and listened and it was left to him to judge whether "it was coming our way". If so he tinkled a Swiss cow-bell and staff all left their rooms and crouched in passages, away from flying glass, to resume as soon as the 'All clear' went. If Charles voted against danger everyone else did the same.

For a period a small rota of us maintained a rather desultory fire-watch at night, sleeping in a rickety camp bed beside the reception counter. I remember asking our tame archi-

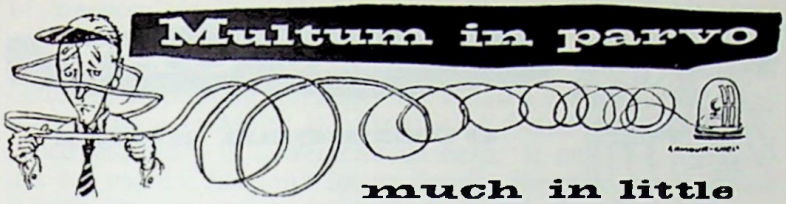
tect what would happen to Forty-Seven in the blast of a bomb anywhere near: would the narrow building just be blown over sideways? "Oh no, I don't expect that", he said, "I think it would just bend like a lily on a stalk and then come back to the perpendicular." And that is just what seems to have happened. One morning we came to work to find the window openings in Francis Street, gaping at us like blind eyes. A smallish high-explosive bomb had blown a corner off the block of buildings behind Forty-Seven, which shed all its windows at once—those in the front sucked inwards and lying, some complete with wooden frames, in ten thousand splinters of glass on desk and floor, those at the back pulled outwards into the yard by the draught of the explosion. The whole house was thick in black dust shaken down from every ledge and corner. The lily had bent and now badly needed regilding. So all hands, men and women, to a dirty day's work.

Red-letter day

Many more bombs fell, shook us and spared us. The depleted staff was kept very busy keeping touch with some three hundred Services Clubs at home, Toc H Circles in the Western Desert and hundreds of members in the Prison camps in Germany and Italy. And at last the great moment of V.E. Day dawned and those who had survived five years of war began to drop in again at Forty-Seven. It was indeed a red-letter day when Rex Calkin, captured on his lawful Toc H business in France in 1940, sat at ease among us to tell his story before settling down to the interminable files on his desk. Headquarters at Forty-Seven was visibly in going order again.

Fitness in Francis Street

The end of this old building is not quite yet. Toc H goes out but other workmen in the Christian cause come in. There is fitness that in Francis Street it should be members of the Order of St. Francis who take over from us. May they be blessed here as I think Toc H has been! For some of us, at this moment of departure, so many memories crowd in and must be dismissed; there is laughter and prayer, good company and strenuous work, a great gift of friends in this place. We have discovered in the end how beautiful an odd, shabby building can be. Goodbye, Forty-Seven!



THE BIRTHDAY HONOURS: Our sincere congratulations to two Vice-Presidents on being made O.B.E.: G. J. MORLEY JACOB, former chairman of the Central Executive, and H. LEIGH GROVES, benefactor of Toc H in Manchester and Salford; also to the present chairman of the Central Executive, RONALD SYMONS, on being appointed C.M.G.

The Rev. LEONARD RIVETT, joint Padre in the Yorkshire Areas, has been appointed Lord Mayor of York for the year of office.

OBERAMMERGAU, 1960: Following the pilgrimages of 1922, 1930, 1934 and 1950, three parties of Toc H members, some with wives and friends, were present at the Passion Play in June and also visited Talbot House, Poperinge.

'REGARDING JOBS': Branch Jobmasters are likely to be asked to contribute to another survey of the service being rendered by Toc H throughout this country at the beginning of the next Leap Year, but not before. Meanwhile the recent survey has provided much information of value if studied alongside the Keynote Projects in Districts and Branches.

BRANCH KEYMEN and other members concerned in Jobmastery are invited to attend the week-end conference on October 7–9 at Philipps House, Dinton, near Salisbury, Wilts. Names to the Southern Area Secretary.

CENTRAL COUNCILLORS for 1960–62: The results of all elections, except where there has been a tie, should be declared by July 14.

BRANCH MEMBERS who have not received their membership cards for 1960 should enquire of their Secretaries if their Branch is one of the nineteen which have not returned their Branch Members' Rolls and so have failed to register their members this year.

GARDEN PARTY at The Holme, Regent's Park, London, in aid of BELRA and Toc H on Saturday, July 23.

DOR KNAP: Open Day on Sunday, July 24. A card to the Warden beforehand and your picnic basket on the day.

FOR THE FESTIVAL of Toc H Women's Association in London on October 29 and 30, tickets can be ordered through any Women's Branch.

FAR CRY

overseas notes

GEOFF MARTIN

TAPING THE WORLD

HOW FAR have we got with tape recording experiments? Recently the Kuala Lumpur group produced a tape recording of one of their meetings, intended primarily for old friends in Calne, Wiltshire and subsequently for Ruislip, Middlesex. When Don Cooney of Bulawayo was in England last summer he went to Ruislip to see Bill Cain, the Branch Chairman. Since then the two have exchanged several tapes recording happenings in their respective Branches. Ruislip are also in touch by tape with Sao Paulo, Brazil. The Waimate Branch (New Zealand) have provided a recording of their Vigil Service in December which they have sent to Peter Vere-Jones (training in England for a New Zealand staff appointment).

The three or four members in Malta, trying hard to form a group there, have sent me their first printed programme, on which these 'speakers' are billed:

22.12.59	...	*Branch Meetings*	... B. KINGSLEY-DAVIES (Recording)
9. 2.60	...	*The Ceremony of Light*	... REV. SAM EVANS (Recording)
22. 3.60	...	*Initiation — making the most of it*	... MAYNE ELSON (Recording)

Perth, Western Australia are also anxious to use some of these London tape recordings. Some Branch efforts are naturally amateurish and in parts almost incoherent. Some voices are too soft, some falter. They are the first attempts to acquire the art of spontaneous broadcasting, which requires skill.

But as experience is gained the value of hearing the voices, and sharing the thoughts of fellow members in other countries can surely help enormously to strengthen the feeling

of 'oneness' in Toc H. No one will suggest that a potted voice is any substitute for a living voice; a tape can't record the light in the eye as a sly quip is produced. But it is better than nothing, and for the isolated members trying to start a group in Malta, a collection of tinned talks by experienced members is a tremendous help. It must be, for they ask for more. So don't let us despise the tape, but develop it with discrimination, for perhaps it can play no small part in fostering the friendships formed between us here in Toc H.

THE OLD HOUSE

Following a visit with a party to Poperinge, MURRAY PANDWE, from Northern Rhodesia, gives his impressions and tells of the part played by the Old House towards cementing the fellowship and interpreting Toc H.

Peter Orford with Murray Pandwe in the garden of the Old House

"I have been associated with Toc H actively for the past nine months. During these months I have met many members from many places. It was my deepest desire to find out from these people what the Movement was about. Their answers to my inquiries, though accurate in themselves, did not sufficiently explain Toc H to me. I was delighted, therefore, when the opportunity came for me to visit Poperinge at Easter.

For me the Old House was a sanctuary, where one received the strength to go forward. During my few days there I saw in action the Toc H fellowship being truly practised. I am positive that the vitality given to our party to co-operate in the way we did, was largely to do with the atmosphere of the Old House we were in. You will be surprised to hear the composition of the party. There were about half-a-dozen of us who were not of the Family of

Toc H, although we were associated with it in one way or another. But the main point is when we were within the walls of Talbot House we were all in the Family, members, non-members, coloureds, South Africans, Australians, old and young were all one.

One cannot claim that the success of the fellowship was entirely due to the people who made up the party being an exceptionally fine lot of people, although some credit should go to them. In the main, however, it would be more true to say that the Old House had something to offer of itself, that I feel, could not be put into words, but just to say it was like a sanctuary. Perhaps you will understand this when I tell you that at the end of the day family prayers were ninety-nine per cent. attended, though no announcements were made about these meetings beforehand.

I feel that while Talbot House remains and is well cared for it performs a tremendous service for Toc H in spreading the Gospel. In passing I would like to mention that since my return from Talbot House, Poperinge, I have become a member of this Family, which goes to show the influence the Old House has on those who visit it."

VIRGINIA TOBACCO AT ITS BEST

WELL MADE · WELL PACKED

A New Day

HERBERT LEGGATE

Here is the forward-looking picture presented by Padre Herbert Leggate when he spoke at this year's Central Council meeting

IT IS ALMOST FORTY YEARS since I joined Toc H. Twenty-nine years since I came on the Staff. I want to say right at the beginning that I believe more passionately in the mission of Toc H now than I did then.

I joined Toc H fairly fresh from the experience of the First World War, during which I found it was possible to be accepted by men who wouldn't have had anything to do with me at all in ordinary civilian life. I also discovered that when you work together with men on a job that is worthwhile, the barriers go down and you see that all men are really worthwhile.

I had been a padre in a church for some years. I was always haunted by the fact that when I got in touch with men there was always at the back of my mind an ulterior motive. I couldn't have expressed it then, but all the time I was concerned about getting them into the church. You see they were the 'outsiders' and we were the 'insiders'. I thought I knew who were the good people and who were the bad—the good people were those in the church. (I thought that in spite of the fact that I was in the church!) I discovered during the war that I had more to learn from men who would have nothing to do with parsons than they could learn in a month of Sundays from people like myself.

Men without labels

When the war was over I joined the Padres' Fellowship and from there graduated to Toc H. To me it was a great experience. I came in touch with a movement that seemed to be concerned with men without labels, seemed to be concerned with men without desiring to get them from here to there; seemed to recognise that the only thing that gives dignity to any person is that he is a human being, and that all the other things that separate men are the trivial and unimportant things. In those early days we were living

in what was called a class-ridden society and Toc H set to work to try to break the barriers between class and the other barriers between religious denominations: for we were only just escaping out of the night of misunderstanding. Some of us reached the stage when the Methodist padre would salute the Anglican parson and he would return the salute with dignity. But we hadn't got very far. I believe Toc H made a great contribution to the wiping out of those barriers.

Even in feudal England a silent revolution has taken place, but if we think that we have got rid of class-consciousness our eyes are not open in the slightest degree. It may meet us in different forms in this new day to which we have come, it may be labelled 'status seeking', it may be concerned with pay packets and the nature of people's employment, but there are still these deep-rooted differences between class and class. The task that Toc H faced in the beginning was relatively easy.

The forward picture

We have come now into a new day, a new day of new opportunities. I know old men are supposed to dream dreams and young men see visions; but I can still see the forward picture. I believe that the best days of Toc H are still to come. One of the problems we have to face is that today a third of our units, if not more, consist of six or seven men who love Toc H despairingly but don't know what on earth to do about it. We have got to meet the challenge of those men in small units who cannot see their opportunities; for the opportunities are there. It is given to them to be aware of the social needs in that community in which they live, and then to go out to recruit people to meet those social needs. I would like to see all our small units setting to work to discover what they would do if an avalanche of twenty or thirty young people wanted to join Toc H.

We have got to start on the outside and work inwards. We have got to recognise that the key to our job is in service that we render to the community, that always we need to remember that the service has got to be service from one man to another. The real genius of Toc H is in the personal friendship that makes men aware that, in spite of differences, Christ himself is in the midst where two or three gather in His spirit.

Some of you are church members. I'm getting sick and

tired to death of canvassing padres and ministers up and down the country and hearing them talk as though Toc H has a good future behind it. Some of the best Toc H men are in the churches to which those padres minister. The thing that astonishes me is that Toc H members of churches who have recognised the wider needs of the community, so seldom seem to recruit young people within their own church to do the jobs of social service that Toc H can only just nibble at.

Wider thinking

Over and over again we are faced with the fact that Toc H units think in terms of their own manpower instead of recognising that they are there in the community, as Tubby has told us, as leaven. They are really meant to be the salt of the earth. But what on earth is the good of salt if it doesn't get into the meat? What's the good of the salt if it doesn't get into the ordinary lives of men and women? I believe that we have got to think wider than our own Family.

One other thing I believe firmly. We would do well to remember in our passionate love for Toc H the words our Lord spoke to people. "He who would save his life shall lose it." It is possible to get so concerned about saving Toc H that we lose it. When Jesus spoke to men He wasn't uttering didactic maxims, he was telling them a truth of the universe. If because of our passionate belief in Toc H we get more concerned in keeping Toc H alive than in carrying on the purpose for which God made it, then, in spite of us, it will begin to die upon us and we shall have made the great betrayal.

God's purposes

I believe God made Toc H to help Him to fulfil some of His purposes amongst men. We ought to call church members into our midst; the church members ought to know the spirit in which they come. When our Lord was amongst men He approached people on the level. He wasn't a 'do-gooder'. We say of Him that He went about doing good. Always He approached men of all kinds and classes as one who knew that if He got into touch with this or that man he would be in touch with God. We need more members of Toc H who are members of churches, who come into the ranks recognising that the biggest thing that can happen to them is not that they may be able to bring some

of these 'outsiders' in, but that they may really meet God in some whom they imagine have no experience of Him.

If Toc H starts with those that are nearest to it and loves those people in spite of everything, if it can stand beside a Toc H man who has gone to prison, meet him when he comes out, bring him back into the Family, wrap him round with fellowship and understanding, and do it again when he does it again, and keep on doing it, then it is beginning to understand the real purpose to which it is called.

Needs at hand

The Good Samaritan started with the need that was at hand. If we start with the needs that are near to us then our visions will be straight, our sights will be heightened, we shall see to the ends of the earth. We shall see those people at the ends of the earth as our brothers, like ourselves, people of dignity because they are the children of one God. If we ¶ can't serve them we shall pray with sincerity about them, we shall be on their side no matter what they may do. We shall be on the side of the oppressor as well as the oppressed. We shall stand in with people who miss their way as well as with those who go our way.

In this sort of a world, faced by these world problems there seems to be little that most of us can do but in that little part of the world where your spirit and my spirit rules, though we may not be able to knock the chains off any slave, though we may not be able to meet the hunger of the world, yet in that part of the world where our spirit rules, the Kingdom of Heaven may come and we may find to our wonderment that we have been working together with God and that the only thing that matters is that God is prepared to use stuff such as we are.

'Focus on Toc H' (2)

For particulars and Entry Form for our new Photographic Competition, open to all Journal readers, see pages 263-4.

Getting in Focus

FRANK FOSTER

I REMEMBER a story set in the distant future when the earth, then dead and cold, is visited by beings from another planet. They discover in a cave a hoard of paintings by the master painters of the ages. They gaze in silent awe at the pictures until one of them says, "How this ancient people must have loved their world to paint its beauty with such patient devotion".

A fantastic tale, of course, but in a way true because we do like to surround ourselves with pictures, paintings and photographs, of the people and places we love.

That is why we thought a photographic competition would appeal to members. It would, we thought, give them an opportunity to portray, thoughtfully and imaginatively, and to share with others such aspects of the life and work of Toc H as could best be depicted pictorially.

In the event, the response to the *Focus on Toc H* competition was disappointing. Did this mean that members cared so little for the activities of the Family as to think them not worth recording? We do not think so: but it may well be one more example of the delay in taking action that from time to time mars our efforts.

May we suggest an experiment that any member can perform? Look through a few back issues of the JOURNAL and examine the photographs therein carefully. You will find that many of them fail to make a real impact because there is too much detail in them. Now try to isolate the most telling part of the picture and you will find that by masking all but this vital part (and perhaps by changing the angle) you have turned something that was dull and fussy into a picture that suitably enlarged will be bold and striking. Now apply the same techniques to your own snaps or take some new photographs with the principle of simplicity and boldness in mind. Don't be afraid of using unorthodox lighting effects. See just how adventurous you can be.

And then—send the results to *Focus on Toc H (2)*.

The closing date for this second competition is September 24. Do enter this time even if it is only to encourage the organisers.

TOC H JOURNAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

with prizes for the best pictures received under the comprehensive title:

Focus on Toc H (2)

The Competition is open to all readers of the Toc H Journal and the closing date for entries is 24th September, 1960.

There are two sections: Black-and-White and Colour.

Entries are limited to not more than three prints or three transparencies from any one competitor and must be accompanied by a completed Entry Form.

The Black-and-White section is for contact prints 2½" square or larger, or enlargements up to half-plate size. These must bear name, address and title of print in ink on the back.

The Colour section is divided into two parts: one for reversal transparencies 35mm size and upwards, and the other for colour prints, with a minimum size of 2½" square.

Colour transparencies must have entrant's name written on back of the cardboard mount and colour prints marked in the same manner as the black-and-white prints detailed above.

Colour transparencies and prints, if accompanied by adequate postage and packing, will be returned within four weeks of the closing date.

It is advisable to stiffen with cardboard the envelope containing your entry in order to prevent damage in the post.

All Black-and-White prints will remain the property of the Toc H Journal, which undertakes to reproduce the winning entries.

The decision of the Judges appointed by the Toc H Journal is final and no correspondence can be entertained concerning the competition.

ENTRY FORM

To: TOC H JOURNAL, 15 TRINITY SQUARE, LONDON, E.C.3

From .....
(BLOCK CAPITALS)

Address .....

Enclosed please find ..... { black-and-white prints / colour prints / colour transparencies } as listed below

Which have been { Trade processed / processed at home }

A. (title) .....

B. (,,) .....

C. (,,) .....

(FOR TRANSPARENCIES OR COLOUR PRINTS ONLY)

Also enclosed is return postage and packing .....

(Please cross out whatever does not apply)

FOR OFFICE USE

No.	Section	Award	Return	

Forgotten Men

STEVE REGIS

After doing his National Service, the writer joined Toc H staff for a two-year spell and will shortly be commencing studies at a theological college

EACH YEAR, dozens of men leave the seventeen Marks in this country—most of them not to return, and many by reason of their getting married and washing dishes for two instead of twenty. (If nothing else Marks provide an excellent training ground for much of domestic life!) What happens to these men, apart from their entering matrimony? No one has yet satisfactorily answered this leading question—probably because nobody really knows! Marks, in the lives of men are but a transitional stage, and perhaps, provide, more than anywhere else in Toc H, a 'University of Life'. Yet having provided this ideal introduction to the art of living with one's fellow men, how much further does Toc H take its responsibility? Is it in fact a responsibility? Either we leave off what we have started; or, by looking at the whole pattern of the Movement and seeing the Marks as an integral part of it, we realise that our work is incomplete. The Marks, though no longer having men knowledgeable about Toc H in them, are without doubt places where men are enabled to experience the truths for which we stand and act upon them—and this is becoming increasingly the actual case, and not merely a target. As Alan Hill pointed out, in the May number of the JOURNAL, the ambition of much of the work which Marks are doing can outshine that of many a Branch.

Here then, we have an increasingly large group of men with a corresponding increase in potential. What are we going to do about them? We are not a member-grabbing society; but if we believe in Toc H as an instrument whereby men who seek find much of that which they seek, then are we not concerned about these men who have left our Marks? Are we not anxious that they shall have the opportunity to seek further, and enlarge on the experience that they have already had? In the main, as far as I am able to gather,

these men when they leave, are remembered by their Mark for a while and have some contact—but time and distance cause this to fade, and in the end they are lost to the Mark and the Movement. Not every ex-Marksman will join a Branch off his own bat. For one thing, as like as not, he isn't a member, and for another his experience of Toc H is different. In many ways it is richer—you couldn't tell him much about fellowship when he has been living with more than twenty other fellows for months on end; yet he may still need to find his responsibility as Mr. Citizen in the community. I think it would be true to say that a Marksman who has found anything of real value and given something of value in return, will have lived up to much of what we attempt to portray in words in the Four Points of the Compass. He wouldn't be able to recite them—but he will have experienced them in day-to-day living.

My sole aim is to paint some sort of picture of the situation between Toc H and its ex-Marksmen and I am not trying to supply any of the possible answers. I feel that much of the answer to the future of Toc H rests not only in the Marks as Marks, but in those who have lived in them—and that includes the forgotten men. It is not an easy thing to tackle—it often becomes hard enough to keep track of Members let alone Marksmen. But with the apparent increase of real relations between Marks and Areas all over the country and the increase of Mark Staffmen there is hope that in the near future these forgotten men may no longer be lost to sight and fellowship within the Toc H Family.

Cruse Clubs Limited

W. J. BAILEY

ON THE DEATH OF HER HUSBAND a woman suffers not only the disruption of grief—"The bottom fell out of my life"—as many have put it—but she finds herself without status and invariably in considerable financial stress. During the first thirteen weeks of change and adjustment she has an extra £1 on her widow's pension and no Earnings Rule, but at the end of this time the full impact

of her situation becomes apparent as she faces the man's job of financing a family and home on less than an unskilled worker's wage. The allowance for her children will not keep a child in food alone. If she is under fifty when her husband dies she will get no widow's pension and will have to pay the full weekly insurance money out of what she earns if she is to qualify for her Old Age Pension later on. Other widows pay 5d. a week insurance. Those widows whose husbands were in the Forces or who died as a result of injury at work, are not restricted by the Earnings Rule but may earn what they like. If they have children they will be taxed as single women.

CRUSE CLUBS LIMITED is a Counselling Service for widows and their families and established for charitable purposes only, was incorporated on October 15, 1959 having begun its work in January of the same year. It now works with Articles of Association and Bye-laws for forming Clubs. It has a practical framework of administrative procedure which offers a guide to those wishing to start work in this needy field of over two and a half million widows, and protection to the widow herself in her vulnerable position.

The practical services of the Club now include an Amenities Scheme covering a Parent's Circle for discussion between mothers with children under sixteen and experts in child care; wholesale marketing in household and toilet requisites; periodic clothing sales; liaison with Toc H in dealing with jobs in the home; hairdressing reductions; provision of surplus fruit and vegetables in season; reduced holiday prices; personal introduction to Clubs and Services in other areas; a Grants and Trusts file; advice on domestic and personal problems; help with business letters, etc.

The fourteenth issue of the monthly *Cruse Club Chronicle* is now circulating (over 600 are printed monthly) and gives special information in it for widows on statutory and voluntary services and matters of special interest to them. Regular meetings are held at 25 Paradise Road, Richmond and much loneliness is dispelled by inter-visiting. The Advisory Panel is frequently called on. Working Parties are held regularly to prepare for the Hallowe'en Sale. Volunteers are needed who can sew and knit and do crafts. Visiting of widows when ill is undertaken by a small sub-Committee of members. Regular theatre parties are arranged by the Entertainments sub-committee and a small group is responsible for

reception at meetings and the preparation of refreshments.

The Club's outstanding needs are for premises and for subscriptions and donations, large or small. Premises will have to include a club room where members may foregather, especially in the evenings and at week-ends; an interview room and office; storage and workroom.

Cruse Clubs Limited hopes to see the formation of an all-Party Parliamentary Group which will campaign for increased child allowances, pensions and a lifting of the 'Earnings Rule' together with a regularising of the whole financial position of the widow and her family. When this is accomplished it is hoped that such a Party will remain to watch over the interests of this large group of women whose needs are so great and whose position has so little protection.

From the foregoing it will readily be seen that Toc H Richmond has realised that here is a worthwhile job on its very doorstep. A very close relationship has been forged between the Branch and the Cruse Club. Many practical jobs such as carpentry, lock repairs, wireless repairs and fence repair have been undertaken by the Branch. Now we are engaged in helping the widows with their gardens.

Some find that they just cannot keep their gardens going any longer. We have written to the local papers asking if there are people who would like to take over their gardens in exchange for some of the produce which means a very great deal to the widow with the cost of vegetables being so high, thus giving someone a chance to engage in gardening and at the same time ensuring that the widow's surroundings are kept neat and tidy. For others we are trying to find helpers to assist the widow keep her garden tidy.

Not all these widows live locally, so great has been the interest aroused in the Cruse Club that on its books are widows living as far apart as Huddersfield, Warrington, Bristol, Birmingham, Watford, etc. Already we have appealed for help with gardens for widows in Huddersfield, Birmingham and Watford and Toc H has responded well in each case. We are convinced, that through this club alone, lies a great corporate job and a challenge to Toc H, "To remember the widow and the fatherless", because more and more of these clubs, will, we feel sure, develop all over the country.

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From all parts

direct from areas

NORTHERN **from Neville A. Husband**

A meeting of the youngest members in WEARSIDE District called to try and discover why more young men are not joining Toc H produced some interesting suggestions. One of these was that the District Team should sponsor a dance and cabaret and another that they should organise a scheme for coaching young athletes.

These were not to be regarded as ordinary 'jobs', but opportunities for taking a more active interest in younger people and demonstrating that Toc H lives in the present and not in the past.

Other suggestions were to make both the Branch rooms and meetings brighter and homelier, and younger people's interest should be kept through giving them particular jobs and ensuring that they knew they were needed in the Branch.

A further meeting is planned, when youngsters who are not members will be invited to give their views and ideas.

SOUTHERN **from Fred Brooker**

The recent Training Weekend, organised by HAYLING ISLAND Branch, proved a great success. The numbers attending were not large, but all those who shared in the fellowship felt that something of the spirit and usefulness of a good Training Week-end. It is planned to make this an annual feature. In several other Districts, plans are going ahead of Training Get-togethers.

The letters T.E.R. are now engraved upon the hearts of the organisers of the Traction Engine Rally held at Chilcomb on May 21. It rained on and off during the first three days of the week preceding, and it rained nearly all day on the Thursday and Friday! Saturday morning was dull but fine, it kept fine, the crowds came, and the show went on. A real Toc H occasion, members from many parts of the Area meeting together and mixing with the enthusiasts who had come to see the wonders of the great Plough Engine, or the showroom condition of the 1902 De Bion Bouton. If you have never been to such a Rally, you must go. Make a date of the Rally at Maiden Castle, Dorchester on Saturday, July 9, at 2 p.m.

A large crowd of members and friends gathered together for the SOUTH WESSEX District Annual Festival and Rededication, which was held this year at the Punchon Memorial Church in Bournemouth, with Padre Herbert Leggate preaching the Festival Sermon. As we go to press, Marksmen are busy in the nets, preparing for the forthcoming challenge match with FAREHAM Branch. We can't find out if it is the bowler or the Mark lawn which is producing a very special line in 'bumpers'!

OXFORD & THAMES VALLEY — from Tim Tobias

A successful Area Rally was held recently at Reading. The Parish Church of St. Laurence was well filled for a service at which the preacher was Padre Westropp, Vicar of Cookham and the Lesson read by the Area Chairman. In the Hall afterwards a fine tea was provided by members of Reading and Earley W.A. The evening began with a most enjoyable musical entertainment by friends of Maidenhead. Light was then taken and the Chairman introduced Herbert Leggate as the guest speaker. Herbert, who was in grand form, proceeded to give of his best. Homegoing prayers were led by Brian Dickson. Altogether between 180 and 200 members and their friends crowded into the hall. Thanks are due to many, who behind the scenes, helped to ensure the Rally's success.

Nantwich Chronicle

Geoff Mitchell receiving Audlem Branch Lamp from Jim Hodge

MANCHESTER — from Bob Knight

CHEADLE HULME marked their birthday on May 21 by inviting HARROGATE to pay them a return visit. The guests were met at Bramall Hall, an Elizabethan timbered house in a beautiful setting. After a short service of rededication in the Chapel, the whole party moved on to Cheadle Hulme for tea and a social evening. The members having brought their families, over ninety people enjoyed the day together.

Extension probes are being made in several places: CULCHETH, where the Atomic Energy Authority personnel have to settle down with the small village community; BUNBURY, where Sydney Swain revived interest among a group of people who were keen to become more than Builders; and NORTHWICH. Any friends or relatives will be included in the first invitations, if names and addresses are provided.

We hear on the bush telegraph that a former staff member from these parts has taken the song "My Old Man's a Dustman" to heart, and become a refuse collector himself. This is to be regarded as promotion. After all, a Branch can live for a long time without a visit from the staff man.

NOTTS. & DERBY

from Les Wheatley

By the time this is in print, the Gala in MANSFIELD on June 18 which has occupied so much time and thought during past months will be over. The relief will be in proportion to its success and much of this will depend on the weather with unhappy memories in mind of an extremely wet Whit Monday some years ago at Chatsworth. Whatever may happen on the day, the many friendships made during preparations will be a happy legacy of the event.

Iain Fraser recently visited the Area and spoke to a representative gathering in ARNOLD and WOODTHORPE Branch room on the particular kind of fellowship that is Toc H's contribution in the world today. RIDDINGS Branch is helping in the novel task of boosting the use of the County Library scheme. Members of ALFRETON Branch produced a most realistic scene from a refugee camp as part of local World Refugee Year Appeal. It was set in the High Street on a derelict piece of ground and behind barbed wire members sat round a bucket fire brewing innumerable cups of tea! MATLOCK Branch raised £20 for the same cause by a foreign coin collection. BOLSOVER Branch are giving entertainment to the old folks centre and Elder Citizens Club. The Branch holds its re-dedication service early in July. CHESTERFIELD are happily involved with the local teenage problem and in social work for the many coloured folk in the town.

LINCOLNSHIRE

from George Lee

The village of GOXHILL boasts no less than 400 roadside trees of various kinds, all of which have been planted and maintained without cost to the rates. A local meeting asked all organisations in the village to contribute towards a central scheme, and this was given a good send-off by the local Branch which provided money earned by the demolition of the local air-raid shelters. (N.B. A member of the Goxhill Branch is not only Clerk to the Parish Council but also Secretary of the local Trees Committee.)

In a small township of only 2,000 people, MARKET RASEN Branch raised £34 through a Coffee Evening for the World Refugee Year appeal.

The Birthday of the SUTTON ON SEA Branch was really 'out of the hat' for in addition to an inspiring Service, prepared by two of the members, a packed hall of members and friends were highly entertained afterwards to an hour of magic, given by a professional magician on holiday at Sutton, who gave his services free.

BARROW-ON-HUMBER and CONINGSBY Branches have both held Old People's Parties. The highlight of the former was that the whole of the delightful spread was prepared by the members and their wives with the old folk themselves assisting, whilst at Coningsby, each person received a bunch of lilies of the valley.

With the disbandment of the AREA EXECUTIVE, the Area notes the success of the scheme in other Areas and is now planning and working prayerfully towards similar success in this Area.

Nearly 250 members and their families joined together at the Butlin's Holiday Camp at Skegness for the annual AREA GATHERING when the Guest speakers were Alan Hill and Jeremy Pollock.

MARCHES **from T. Romanis**

SHREWSBURY Branch held its Annual Dinner with the Bishop of Shrewsbury, a former member of the Branch, as their Guest Speaker. Plans are now in hand to organise the Fatherless Children's Outing to Rhyl, on July 10.

There is a strong musical interest in LLANGOLLEN Branch and six members recently took part in the local Operatic Society show.

EDGMOND group are off to a good start having organised a successful Whist Drive for their funds. They have made plans to visit the lonely old men in Audley House Home and also intend to lend strength to the local Road Safety Campaign.

Ralph Wrigley, Clitheroe

A 'Teen and Twenties' Ball organised by Clitheroe Branch for the younger element of their town

WESTERN **from Johnnie MacMillan**

By the time this is in print, the WINANT VOLUNTEERS (to whose coming we have much looked forward) will be among us on the first Winant venture outside London. The eleven Winants have been placed in a variety of clubs and settlements in Bristol, and there is considerable interest in this venture. We hope that the experiment will prove to be the beginning of many other young Americans coming to the West Country under the auspices of the Winant Volunteers.

The Area Centre held its first "Get-together" on May 31, when the Speaker was Mr. Donald Tweddle, Secretary of the United Nations Association. The seventy members and friends present proved how small the Centre is for such an occasion!

A new group is underway at SHARPNESS (next door to Berkeley—or is it the other way round?)—anyhow Berkeley is the future home of one of the new atomic power stations and the contact at Sharpness should prove valuable once some of the atomic residents arrive.

A re-shuffle of districts has resulted in the closure of the MID FOSSE District and the formation of MID COTSWOLDS District, composed of CIRENCESTER, STROUD and TETBURY. MALMESBURY and SHERSTON have returned to CHIPPENHAM District.

EASTERN LONDON

from Jim Green

A small Branch, WICKFORD, took a leading part in their town's efforts in aid of World Refugee Year. They organised a variety concert, booking a galaxy of the best local entertainers and securing the services of Avril Angers, the radio and television star, who was born in the town. A very popular item was the performance of Les Cownden's Cubsters (see the picture on page 167 of the May JOURNAL), and they probably still need some old car hooters!

Congratulations to our three new Central Councillors, Fred Hennessy of Barkingside Branch, Wally Jones of Rochford and Giles Roche of Tower Hill.

SCOTLAND

from Reg Stewart

This year's Scottish Council was again held at Carronvale, the guest speaker being Jack Harrison. Thirty-two members were in residence for the weekend, a total of sixty-five attending for at least part of the session and representing twenty-one Branches. The Clan system was again employed and Alec Turner of Dunfermline gave us a detailed report on the Central Council Meeting. Reports of the Chairman, H.A.C. and the Treasurer were also given and there was some lively criticism. The Scottish Executive are to take up such matters as Extension, Toc H in Glasgow, Training and the possibilty of another 'Gean' House.

In the evening Jack Harrison spoke to us on a subject which, if not entirely dear to his own heart was certainly somewhat less dear to that of his audience! Jack, in the most interesting fashion traced the financial history of Toc H since the outbreak of the last war. Despite the difficulties of the subject he managed to make it not only palatable but of unusual interest.

The talk was followed by several comments, notably those of Lyndsay Orr who pointed out that with reduced membership there was a greater onus placed on individual members to support the Family Purse. Lyndsay called for greater support for our Movement from the large cities and other urban areas of Scotland. Arthur Laws of Neilston suggested that Toc H in Scotland was too parochially minded and suggested that we should apply ourselves to wider horizons and to problems outwith Scotland.

The Clan discussions took place on Sunday, 15th May, and were based on four composite questions incorporating the Four Points of the Compass. They gave rise to a great deal of lively and in some cases highly original discussion, and the reporting back covered a very wide range of thought and opinion.

SUSSEX

from Vic A. Phillips

On Tuesday, May 10, YAPTON Branch had their big night—the presentation of their Lamp. Over 140 people attended, including many from other Branches in the District. The Lamp, donated by an anonymous friend, was bestowed by Cyril Cattell, and accepted on behalf of the Branch by Arthur Jennings who worked so hard to get the group formed in the first place.

The evening was rounded off by a social with those helping to provide the fun being mainly Toc H members, whilst the Felpham W.A. Branch made themselves responsible for feeding of the flock. A memorable evening for all concerned.

EAST MIDLANDS — from Colin Stevenson

To gather together 400 oddly assorted men and women for five hours, and maintain happiness and continuity is no easy task. But the gaiety and light heartedness of the EAST MIDLANDS AREA FESTIVAL at Ashby-de-la-Zouch were the outward and visible signs of a well organised show. The Festival which was held at the Ivanhoe Community College, opened with a service in the Parish Church and a vigorous sermon from the Provost of Coventry Cathedral. An excellent tea arranged by the local Women's Branches preceded entertainment from BURTON-ON-TRENT and SWADLINCOTE Branches, which ranged from comedy to conjuring and singing. The climax of the afternoon was a talk from Iain Fraser, Area Secretary for Lakeland. We were given a vivid picture of the changing community with special reference to the vast new housing estates, and the vital part Toc H has to play in these situations where loneliness and unhappiness abound. All of us who were present would like to thank those who 'did time' to make this a successful afternoon. ¶

Clifford L. Bennett, Frome

Members of Frome Branch after the bestowal of their Lamp

SOUTH WESTERN — from Gilbert Francis

Good luck to the new group at Ilfracombe. Would members on holiday please note that visitors will be very welcome on Mondays at 7.30 p.m. at the Oddfellows Hall, Oxford Grove, Ilfracombe. If desired previous contact may be made with the group secretary, W. J. Phillips at 23 Worth Road, Ilfracombe.

With the close of World Refugee Year Appeal may I pay a tribute to all the Branches in the Area on the way this effort has been backed-up. Some Branches like MARTOCK have raised money out of all proportion to their strength. Others, like MILBORNE PORT, have been involved in joint local efforts in terms of organisation. But whatever form the job has taken it has been done faithfully and well, and I have been proud to hear of the tributes paid to our Family throughout the Area for all that has been done to help.

SOUTH PETHERTON'S final effort for World Refugee Year took the form of an auction sale. After canvassing for articles and organising transport to the scene of battle, a bumper sale raised over £40.

EAST YORKSHIRE

from Bill Hardy

It is interesting to record some of the many ways in which Branches in the Area have lent support to the World Refugee Year Appeal. Let's start with EASINGWOLD. This Branch sponsored a Sunday evening concert in the town hall, while a garden fete in which SELBY Branch took a leading part raised more than £1,000. EASINGWOLD, CENTRAL HULL and GOOLE Branches helped with house-to-house collections in their respective areas, and members were agreeably surprised by the kind reception given them by the average householder.

BRIDLINGTON Branch formed themselves into a 'ginger' group to follow up the Mayor's appeal. Theirs was an imaginative approach, with a Christmas Day collection made by every Bridlington family as they sat down to enjoy the day's traditional fare. The result was a cheque for £410 towards W.R.Y. appeal.

In York, Padre Len Rivett helped with others to bring home to people the plight of the refugees by living for a whole week under refugee conditions in a shack erected on a prominent site near the city centre. Although collecting money was not the primary object, we understand that a sum exceeding £86 was given for the fund to Len and his companions.

AYTON Branch ran a successful competition on behalf of the appeal while COTTINGHAM members provided helpers to count the proceeds from their town's special 'Refugee' week.

WEST MIDLANDS

from Bob Purdy

Both BUILTH WELLS and LLANDRINDOD WELLS Branches have held well-attended Birthday Guest-nights. Harold Edge, Area Vice-Chairman escorted by members of Castlecroft Branch spoke at Builth and the Area Secretary at Llandrindod, where local councillors were among the guests.

The Mayor of Dudley, in welcoming the guests at DUDLEY Branch Silver Jubilee celebrations on May 21, spoke on the work done in the town by the Branch and especially for the Blind of the District of which he was most appreciative, being himself blind. An afternoon Service in the Congregational Church was followed by a 'real Toc H tea', then a concert, with the Area Secretary to wind up a most successful Birthday celebration.

The new Area Chairman, R. A. Jack ('Rajah') took charge of the first meeting to launch Toc H in WARWICK, which took place as a result of excellent contact work by the District Team and LEAMINGTON Branch members in particular.

At last month's meeting of the BIRMINGHAM FORUM the speaker, Mr. Archer of Wychall Farm Junior School gave an enlightening talk on "The aims of Primary Education". Those who heard him realised how little the average parent knows of today's educational processes.

A first meeting has been arranged for Wychall Farm Estate, probably the smallest in acreage, but its 8–10 storey flats making it the highest within the Birmingham city boundary. This interesting experiment may well provide us with clues to future work on estates where it is felt that Toc H could successfully operate.

BEDS. & HERTS. **from Ray Fabes**

The AREA CAR RALLY was excellently organised this year by Malcolm Cole of Sandy. Welwyn Garden City imported a suspected police car navigator to win the event for them, they also provided the first Toc H member home. Doug Durbridge (in sixth place) winning the Clifford Pollard Trophy. Lindie Scott, 14-year-old daughter of a member from Hitchin walked off with the passenger Quiz Prize with a brilliant all correct return for her powers of observation.

With much enthusiasm and merry making Branches have again been meeting at 'Places of interest' to play their District qualifying rounds of the AREA DARTS COMPETITION.

After the Area Executive Jim Davies, the Administrative Padre introduced the Area Jobmaster, who promptly gave away all his personal statistics and secrets to the gathering assembled that evening at LUTON.

The Saturday morning bookstall run by Stopsley Branch to help their Job fund

BEDFORD District Branches gathered to hear Reg Smith, East Anglian Area Secretary, give his impressions of the sort of links Toc H can forge in the chain of human relationships with men they encounter when they run 24-hour Stockmen's Tents, as Bedford District themselves will be doing again at their County Agricultural Show this month. Ray Fabes said something about 'People looking for Laughs' and was promptly told he was in charge of the night shift—and further shook all present by accepting.

STOPSLEY have been interesting friends at the Vauxhall Works, with success, in visiting the Cheshire Home at Ampthill Park.

STEVENAGE and HITCHIN are organising the Area Rally (when we will welcome Peter Orford as our guest to the New Town area) no doubt they will get down to details.

BATFORD and HARPENDEN Branches joined forces to assist at a local BELRA fair which raised £180.

Evesham Journal

The Dor Knap Committee were at home to friends, benefactors, the Central Executive and local Toc H members at an informal ceremony held on Saturday, May 21, to mark the opening of Dor Knap as a Toc H training centre

SURREY

from Tony Waterfield

Two WEYBRIDGE members were concerned, well before publication of the Albemarle Report, that apart from a weekly 'hop' at the public hall there was no place for the town's youngsters to meet together in the evenings.

Deciding that a coffee club, with none of the conditions of membership existing in the more stereotyped Youth Club, might provide a solution they set about putting the idea across.

In a very short time, a Committee had come into being, consisting of two members of the Council, a Police Inspector, a Probation Officer, the local County Youth Officer, the Branch Padre, a member of the Toc H W.A. Branch, and the two members who first conceived the idea.

Finding suitable premises presented a real problem and, as a temporary measure, the 'Casuals Club' has since opened up on a once-a-week basis in the local Girl Guide hut. Later, with Council help it is hoped to provide a far better meeting place.

Meanwhile, the Club meets every Wednesday with an attendance of nearly 100 youngsters who have paid their 2s. 6d. membership fee and the 6d. weekly subscription. A teenagers' Committee has been formed, who run the Club entirely by themselves, with one Toc H member sitting in as adviser.

When the Club has settled down it is hoped to open on other evenings and activities already asked for include Judo and Modern Jazz nights.

Induction Statement

SAM EVANS

Last April Padre Sam Evans was inducted to the Pastorate of Burnt Ash Church, after five years on the Toc H staff. On such occasions it is customary for the Minister to make a Statement to the Church explaining how he felt called to his new Pastorate. Here is an extract of the Statement made by Padre Evans at his induction

FIVE YEARS AGO, I began full-time work on the Staff of Toc H as an Area Padre—serving the Southern and South Eastern London Areas. In many ways, this call to Toc H service was perhaps an unusual and certainly unexpected one—though, as a member, I had grown to see its potential as a frontier, Christianising society, commited to the task of making real to men (through informal and adventurous fellowship and service) the essentials of the Christian Faith, as a bridge across which men could pass from unbelief to faith, from disillusionment to hope, from unconcern to caring for the needs of others.

It was my conviction that a movement like Toc H was—and could become increasingly—an effective agency of the whole Church, serving the cause of the great Ecumenical Movement of our time. Ideally it has set itself to serve the interests of the Christian way; in the words of the present Archbishop of Canterbury, "it is an experiment in Christian evangelism and in Christian community". I took up my task with the conviction that Toc H, at its best, could supply the enthusiasm, the adventure, and the fellowship that was (so I felt) lacking in not a few of our local churches.

Moreover, too many of us in the churches still, were insular and self-centred; content apparently to remain complacent in our lack of concern about the non-Christian, and in our ignorance of the richness of the variety in worship and tradition to be found in other denominations than our own. Such insularity has always made me impatient, and more than impatient; indeed, it has always been a sin against the Head of the Church, in Whom all Christians are one, whether they work it out in their lives or not.

¶ In Toc H during the last five years, that blessed, though admittedly difficult, word 'ecumenicity' has become for me

increasingly real and vital. I have been 'at home' in many churches and homes, and in the company of a variegated mixture of Christian disciples, and such a mixture has been truly an enrichment of one's life and service.

In writing to confirm my appointment to the full-time Staff of Toc H, the former Administrative Padre, the Rev. Herbert Leggate, ended his letter with these words: "I pray that God will richly bless your ministry in Toc H and that your own experience may be enriched as a result of the contacts that you will make". I can now testify that the hopes then expressed have been realised. I thank God for the enrichment of my life and ministry which five years' service and fellowship in my somewhat peripatetic task has brought.

But if it were not for the Church, and for a certain priest of the Church of England, Toc H would never—could never—have been born. And the Movement is but an agency of Christ's Body, and not an end in itself. Moreover, I have never forgotten that twelve-and-a-half years ago I was ordained to the Ministry of the Word and Sacraments within the Church. And during the latter half of last year it became evident that I was being led to a return to the ministry through and within the local church at the end of five years' service in Toc H.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

BRUGES. Toc H parties and individual visitors to this lovely city are offered good accommodation and a warm welcome at HOTEL JACOBS. Early booking advised. Write: M. Lietaert, Hotel Jacobs, 1 Baliestraat, Bruges, Belgium.

COUNTRY COTTAGE HOLIDAYS. Central Snowdonia and North Wales Coast. Part or Full Board Residence as required. Furnished Cottage (two double-bedrooms) also to let. Two miles Conway Valley and Bodnant Gardens. Terms apply: Rev. and Mrs. John Jones. Bryn Hyfryd, Trofarth, Nr. Abergele, Denbighshire.

KNOKKE, BELGIUM, for golden sands, bathing, sand-yachting, sports and entertainments. Within easy reach of the famed Cities of Art. Moderate-priced, modern hotel, excellent meals. English spoken, highly recommended. For details write to Mr. Georges Lietaert, Hotel Britannique, 31, Avenue van Bunnen.

HOLIDAY accommodation available Plymouth. Bed and Breakfast 12/6. Evening meal (extra). Mrs. Jacobs, 13 Lockyer Road, Mannamead, Plymouth.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. Apartments or Board Residence. Mrs. M. Spink, 2, Newton Road, Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset. (Widow of late Toc H member.)

ROYAL NORMAL COLLEGE for the Blind requires in September resident single man for physical education and organisation of sports and leisure activities of youths aged 16-18. Previous experience of blind unnecessary. Skill in handicrafts desirable as is ability to give clerical assistance in office during hours not occupied in main duties. Salary £500 × £25 — £700 p.a. with contributory superannuation and free board and lodging. Replies with full particulars to Principal, Albrighton Hall, Broad Oak, Shrewsbury.

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